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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A utility knife tool comprising:
 - a) a handle with a distal portion;
 - b) a blade secured to and extending from said distal portion, said blade having a cutting edge;
 - c) a blade cover that ~~is biased to cover a cutting edge and at least a portion of a side of the blade, and~~ moves between an operating position in which the blade is exposed, and a safety position in which at least a cutting edge and a portion of a side of the blade is covered, and that is biased towards the safety position; and
 - d) a manually triggered self-locking release assembly, internal to the handle, that unlocks the cover when a trigger is operated, so that the cover can be retracted, and re-engages the locking assembly upon manual retraction of the cover, so that the cover automatically locks in place when the cover is returned to the safety position.
2. (Previously Amended) The tool of Claim 1 wherein the cover retracts into the handle.
3. (Previously Amended) The utility knife of Claim 2 wherein the cover and the trigger are each biased by springs.
4. (Previously Amended) The utility knife of Claim 2 wherein the release assembly is actuated by a trigger located on an inferior surface of the handle.
5. (Previously Amended) The utility knife of Claim 2 wherein the cover retracts linearly into the handle.
- 6-10. Canceled.

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